

# Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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I N S I D E

# Around the CNMI



The USS Kitty Hawk in this picture from the U.S. Navy's Seventh Fleet Ships website [www.c7f.navy.mil/ship.htm](http://www.c7f.navy.mil/ship.htm).

By EDITH G. ALEJANDRO  
REPORTER

America's oldest military warship, USS Kitty Hawk, berthed at the Saipan lagoon briefly around 10:45am Friday for precision positioning, the Commonwealth Ports Authority said. But the ship did not stay that long and stayed outside the Saipan Harbor.

Due to shallow waters, the ship berthed out of the breakwater and left immediately, Saipan seaport manager Tony Cabrera said.

He explained that there was no report as to where USS Kitty Hawk was heading or even what the reason for the berthing was, besides the information provided the Seaport division that it would be on the water for a short period of time.

"I don't know why they were here. We were just told that they would be berthing. They stayed out on the water. It was merely precision positioning and probably part of their military exercise," said Cabrera during Friday's CPA Board meeting.

USS Kitty Hawk is the lead ship of the Navy's second class of "super carriers" and the second ship in the Navy to bear this name. Since August 1998, USS Kitty Hawk is homeported in Yokosuka, Japan, where she relieved the now decommissioned USS Independence as the only forward deployed aircraft carrier in the Navy.

On March 21, 2002, USS Kitty Hawk became the first carrier in the U.S. Navy to perform test firings with the Rolling Airframe Missile System. It was commissioned in 1960 with overall length of 10,465 feet or 319 meters. USS Kitty Hawk's flight deck width is 252 feet or 76.8 meters and cost about \$400 million in 1961. It can accommodate 85 aircraft and has 2,900 men onboard and a 2,480-men crew at the air wing. It is armed with Mk 29 NATO Sea Sparrow launchers, 20mm Phalanx CIWS Mk 15, and Rolling Airframe Missile system.

The year 2000 saw USS Kitty Hawk and its Battle Group operating in the western Pacific. The carrier took part in Exercise

Cobra Gold 2000 and conducted port visits to Phattaya, Thailand; Hong Kong and Singapore.

After the terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C. on Sept. 11, 2001, the USS Kitty Hawk Battle Group was ordered to deploy to the Indian Ocean and was later involved in combat missions against the Taliban and al-Qaida in Afghanistan. The Battle Group returned to Yokosuka on Dec. 23, 2001.

In 2002, Northern Marianas government officials and business executives were invited to join servicemen onboard the aircraft carrier. USS Kitty Hawk has a 70-man security, a 300-man public works force, a ship-wide, closed circuit television system for entertainment, and holds religious services for several denominations.

Some of the local officials who were invited to the aircraft carrier by U.S. Naval Forces were Gov. Juan N. Babauta, Sen. Paul A. Manglona, Special Assistant for Administration Thomas Tebuteb, and some members of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

# PIA plane forced to return to Saipan after landing gear fails

By EDITH G. ALEJANDRO  
REPORTER

A Pacific Island Aviations airplane was forced to return to the Saipan International Airport Friday morning after its landing gear failed to activate when it was about to land at the Rota airport.

The airplane circled the Rota airport five times before the two pilots decided to return to Saipan. The plane managed to land at the Saipan airport safely. All 13 passengers aboard the 9:15am flight were safe.

According to Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Carlos H. Salas, the plane was on its way to Guam and Rota when the incident happened.

Salas said the PIA pilots decided to return to Saipan around 9:30am and sought the assistance of the SIA Traffic Control so that the plane could land safely at the airport's runway.

"All passengers are safe and that was a brave thing to do. The pilots took an emergency landing after deciding to come

back to Saipan. The aircraft experienced mechanical problem and its landing gears did not come out when it was about to land on Rota," said the executive director.

Salas appreciated the pilots' decision to return to Saipan instead of landing on Rota. He said the pilots were brave and decided accordingly.

According to Salas, it was later found that the plane's landing gear had failed to activate.

In late 1990s, two Tinian residents sued the PIA, saying they suffered psychological trauma when the PIA plane they were on crash landed in 1998 on its way to Guam.

Rosita C. Palacios and Carleen P. Mendiola asked for punitive damages amounting to \$1 million in the civil complaint they filed before the Superior Court through their lawyer Joshua A. Berger.

The two women took the PIA Tinian-Guam flight on Dec. 8, 1998 to do some Christmas shopping on Guam during the day and come back to Tinian in the evening.

However, the aircraft's landing gear failed to operate when

it was about to land on Guam, forcing the plane to circle Won Pat International Airport several times before finally crash landing.

"PIA has engaged in a pattern and practice of improperly maintaining the aircraft which operated in the CNMI," the civil complaint said.

PIA denied all the allegations. It said the two women did not understand the meaning of the term "crash landed." The airline claimed it was not responsible for the alleged injuries they sustained.

# Community urged to honor NMI's public safety officers

Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente urged the community to honor the men and women of the Public Safety Department as they put their lives on the line to effectively carry out law enforcement activities.

During Friday's ceremony at the Department of Public Safety, Benavente led members of the CNMI government and the community in paying homage to law enforcement officers who gave their lives so that the CNMI may live in safety.

"We honor them not because of how they died, but because of how they lived. Everyday they put on a badge that symbolized the commitment they made to

serve and protect the citizens of the Commonwealth. In fulfilling that commitment, they gave their all for us," said the Lt. Gov.

He said that no speech, no flag and no ceremony could bring back police officers who served with their life to see the CNMI safe and in peace.

"So let us honor the brave men who have made the ultimate sacrifice and renew our commitment to the men and women who still serve us every day, that we will do everything we can to prevent adding another name to the list of the fallen. Thank you," Benavente said.

The Peace Officers Candle

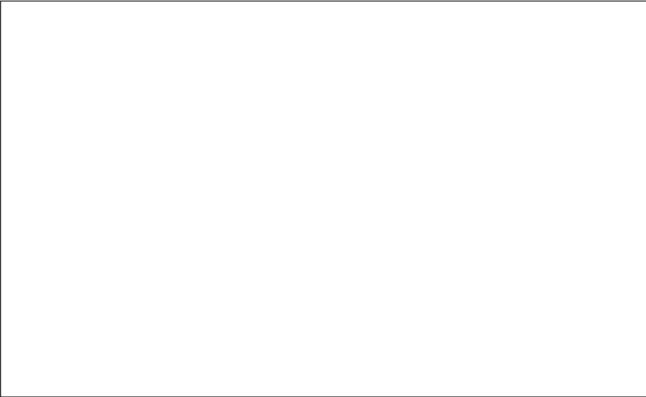
Light Vigil and Peace Officers Memorial Service was held as part of National Police Week.

Officers killed in the line of duty were Capt. Justino T. Arriola, Police Officer III Abraham S. Quitugua, and Police Officer II Gilbert M. Taisacan. Officers injured were Officer Marvin S. Camacho, Sgt. Antonio S. Borja, and Officer Jose B. Cepeda.

The event was also dedicated to former officer I-Chih Eddie L. Chen, who served the CNMI community from Sept. 25, 1995 to Dec. 23, 1999. Chen and seven other U.S. soldiers were killed by hostile fire in Sadr City in Baghdad last April 4. (Edith Alejandro)


mcd

# WEATHER FORECAST




PICTURE TIME: 2:25 A.M., DECEMBER 17, 2003  
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.


A monsoon trough extends from 6N130E through a tropical disturbance near 8N145E and finally to near 5N160E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the disturbance are found in the Mariana islands as well as between Yap and Chuuk or between 4N and 16N from 139E to 153E. Just east of the monsoon trough, a surface trough of low pressure continues to near the equator at 168E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are developing north and east of the trough or within 100 miles either side of a line from 9N160E to the equator at 173E, including Kosrae. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across portions of the Marshall islands, between 4N and 16N from 170E to 180.




**SAIPAN AND TINIAN**  
Cloudy and breezy with scattered showers, some locally heavy, and a slight chance of thunderstorms.  
**Winds:** East at 20-25 mph. Gusting in 35 mph in showers.  
**Temperature:** Lows near 78. Highs near 86.




**GUAM AND ROTA**  
Cloudy and breezy with scattered showers, some locally heavy, and a slight chance of thunderstorms.  
**Winds:** East at 20-25 mph. Gusting in 35 mph in showers.  
**Temperature:** Lows near 78. Highs near 86.




**PALAU**  
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.  
**Winds:** Northeast at 10 kt.




**POHNPEI**  
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.  
**Winds:** East at 10 kt.




**YAP AND ULITHI**  
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.  
**Winds:** Northeast at 10 kt.






















**KOSRAE**  
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.  
**Winds:** Southeast at 10 kt.



**CHUUK**  
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers with a slight chance of thunderstorms.  
**Winds:** Northeast at 10-15 kt.



**MAJURO**  
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.  
**Winds:** East at 10-15 kt.

CITY	FORECAST	HIGH	LOW
 Auckland	Cloudy	61F (16C)	49F (9C)
 Beijing	Sunny	44F (7C)	26F (-3C)
 Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	74F (23C)	61F (16C)
 Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86F (30C)	72F (22C)
 London, England	Cloudy	56F (13C)	45F (7C)
 Los Angeles	Cloudy	69F (21C)	51F (11C)
 Manila	Cloudy	88F (31C)	71F (22C)
 Melbourne	Sunny	73F (23C)	54F (12C)
 Miami	Partly Cloudy	84F (29C)	75F (24C)
 New York, NY	Cloudy	52F (11C)	48F (9C)
 Osaka	Rain	54F (12C)	46F (8C)
 Paris	Cloudy	53F (12C)	41F (5C)
 Pusan	Rain	58F (14C)	43F (6C)
 Rome	Partly Cloudy	55F (13C)	39F (4C)
 Salem, Oregon	Rain	54F (12C)	38F (3C)
 San Francisco	Sunny	64F (18C)	47F (5C)
 Seoul	Rain	52F (11C)	45F (7C)
 Tokyo	Rain	55F (13C)	49F (9C)
 Washington, DC	Cloudy	60F (16C)	48F (9C)



# Opinion

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## EDITORIAL

### Gaza killings

A warning shot? That's how Israeli officials explained the tank-fired rockets and artillery shells that tore through a crowd of Palestinian marchers in the Gaza Strip on Wednesday, killing at least seven, including children.

The Israeli soldiers may have genuinely feared for their lives: 13 comrades died in Gaza fighting earlier this month. But the level of fire power used to deter the hundreds protesting Israel's weeklong incursion into southern Gaza was grossly disproportionate to the threat.

Condemnation of the civilian deaths was heard from the United Nations to the Oval Office. But it won't make up for Israel's brutish deployment that imposed a curfew and cut utilities to Palestinian homes in the Rafah refugee camp as soldiers scoured the camp for wanted militants. It won't rebuild the houses demolished by Israeli bulldozers nor shelter the homeless Palestinians.

The extent of the violence over the past week has been noted by the White House in recent days. The Bush administration conveyed its objections at the United Nations, where it abstained on a Security Council vote to condemn Israel's actions rather than vetoing the resolution.

The administration has reason to be upset. President Bush expended a great deal of political capital—foolishly—when he supported Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's proposal to withdraw Israeli troops and Jewish settlers from the Gaza Strip. His acceptance of the Gaza plan infuriated Arab allies because it tilted the balance of power in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in Sharon's favor. Bush went beyond supporting the Gaza pull-out—he upheld Israel's hold on large settlement blocs in the West Bank, while refuting Palestinian refugees' right to return to their ancestral homes in Israel.

The president sought assurances that Israel would ease the hardships of Palestinians living in the path of Israel's security barrier now under construction in the West Bank. The events of the past week show that Bush should have sought the same assurance for Palestinians in Gaza.

The Israeli drive into southern Gaza was part of an operation to hunt for suspected terrorists and destroy arms-smuggling tunnels hidden beneath Palestinian homes. Consider it a prelude to Sharon's Gaza withdrawal plan: Israeli defense forces eradicating potential threats before they withdraw. But the Gaza plan remains in limbo—Sharon has yet to present a revised version to his Cabinet.

The Gaza assault doesn't ensure Israel's security. It underscores the results of a failed U.S. policy that leaves Israelis and Palestinians to their own devices to end the conflict of the past four years: violence, retribution and more violence.

(c) 2004, The Baltimore Sun



## Gas prices fuel bad policy ideas

Are you paying too much for gasoline? Sure you are, says Uncle Sam—and so the government wants to help you. Of course, energy policy is like everything else: Americans will have to plow through the bad ideas to get to the good ideas.

So let's start with bad. The first instinct of most politicians, of course, is to demagogue the issue, whatever it is. And so Democratic legislators in California demand an investigation of alleged supply manipulations by the oil companies. Never mind, of course, that the biggest fix of all has been California's effort to block all new drilling and refinery facilities for the past four decades—even as the Golden State has led the way toward the glamorization of the gas-guzzling lifestyle, including, most spectacularly, the tank-like Hummer.

And on Tuesday, 10 Democratic governors—including Iowa's Tom Vilsack, who is auditioning to be John Kerry's running mate—also called for an investigation into the oil business. But what's to investigate? Somewhere in the fuel chain, somebody might be doing a little gassy-panky, but there's no domestic Oil Trust to be busted. It's the world market, not American corporate conspirators, which has driven the price of oil to record highs.

Second on the bad-idea roster is tapping the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. Also on Tuesday, Senate Democrats, including New York's Chuck Schumer, offered a resolution calling upon the Energy Department to release 1 million barrels a day for up to 60 days from the SPR.

Now let's get a grip on reality here: The United States consumes about 20 million barrels of oil a day, or 1.2 billion barrels every two months. Does anyone really think eye-dropping 5 percent more oil into the system will have any notable effect on gas prices?

Besides, the whole point of the SPR is for emergencies, not motoring convenience. In fact, the SPR contains just 660 million barrels—which is to say that in its entirety, in the wake of a crisis, it would supply oil for only a month. If the SPR is to serve its purpose, it should be conserved for an emergency, not depleted.

The third bad idea was put forth by Democratic presidential nominee Kerry. He suggests "jawboning" Saudi Arabia and the other oil-exporting countries. This talk-plan might work for a time, but given

By JAMES P. PINKERTON  
Special to Newsday

*Pinkerton is a Newsday columnist.*



the situation in Iraq, and the war on terrorism, do we really want to be making side deals with Arab oilocracies? Suppose the Saudis say "yes" and increase production, thereby decreasing prices. What will they ask for in return? Will they demand a relaxation of American pressure in regard to their foreign aid to Islamic outfits, many of them sponsors of terrorism?

New York Gov. George Pataki describes the \$30 billion annually sent to the Middle East for oil as a "terror tax"—that is, our money supporting their terrorists. Haven't we been down this bloody road before, making secret compacts with the people who produced Osama bin Laden and financed al-Qaida?

Moreover, is it smart to grow more dependent on foreign oil? Today, the United States imports some 55 percent of its petroleum; if current trends continue, that percentage will rise to two-thirds by 2025.

So finally, by process of elimination, we come to a good idea, tucked away like Hope in Pandora's Box. Last week, as part of a larger tax bill package, the Senate approved some \$14 billion in tax incentives for domestic energy production, including, crucially, production tax credits for alternative-energy production—wind, solar, biodiesel. Critics denounced the overall bill as pork, and of course it has its share of piggery. But the bill—which is still far from enactment into law—is at least a beginning toward a better energy future for the United States.

Indeed, the incentives for new kinds of home-grown energy might provoke a serious debate about the future of American society. Do we want to increase U.S. energy independence? Or are we settling instead for demagoguery, even as we continue paying the overseas terror tax?



By RUTH L. TIGHE

It is said that House member Ray A.N. Yumul, in introducing his infamous House Bill 14-42, or the Alien Worker's Act for 2004, is fronting for the House speaker. That would make more sense than that Yumul himself supports the bill, since the bill seems to be decidedly anti-business—except for the provision to lift the cap on foreign workers. Certainly the provisions to ban transfers, and to require that worker contracts be renewed only after the worker has returned to his point of origin, do not favor the average businessman. Rather, they add significant employer costs to the hiring of each worker.

Which raises the question of on who's behalf is House Vice Speaker Timothy P. Villagomez acting by introducing the equally infamous "Public Corporation Board Reform Act of 2004," aka House Bill 14-154. The bill emasculates the boards of seven government agencies by reducing the boards to advisory status and giving the governor the power to appoint their directors—without Senate confirmation. The bill thus places the fiscal responsibility for the agencies in the hands of each agency's director, instead of its board.

The agencies affected are the Commonwealth Ports Authority, the Commonwealth Utilities Commission, Marianas Public Land Authority, Marianas Visitors Authority, Northern Marianas Housing Authority, the NMI Retirement Fund, and the Telecommunications Commission. Though the bill purports to change the function of "boards of public corporations, authorities and commissions," it has left intact the Law Revision Commission, the Election Commission and the Civil Services Commission. Moreover, the Retirement Fund is not a public corporation, an authority or a commission.

What the seven agencies that would be affected by this bill have in common is the large amount of money that flows through their hands. Not only does the bill appear to be a major power grab on the part of the governor; it also appears to be a major money grab, since each agency director would now no longer be encumbered by a board, but would serve at the pleasure of the governor.

Was Villagomez so frustrated by his board while CUC director that he actually supports this bill? Or has he, too, been pressured to introduce it on behalf of someone else?

■ ■ ■

And while on the subject of pressures, a high government official once told me that the CNMI cannot afford to get rid of its poker machines—they bring in too much revenue. It's strange then, that the published reports of revenue sources for the CNMI do not list receipts from poker machines. Garment industry revenue, tourist industry revenue, are reported at least every quarter, but not the income generated from poker machines.

This "denial," if you will, also colors the seemingly pious state-

## Letters to the Editor

*Saipan Tribune welcomes contributions. All letters intended for publication must include the writer's name, address and, if possible, fax or telephone number. Letters are edited for space, clarity and fairness.*

## Be kind to animals

Thank you for the article on "Why animals deserve kindness." It breaks my heart when I see animals being neglected or mistreated. I hope there will be more articles on animals in your issues to come. We need to educate our people on animal treatment/well-being. Our pets are like our children. Thank you.

**Tilde Torres Gozrulak**

by e-mail

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ments made by the governor when he talks about his interest in getting poker parlors out of sight of the schools, out of the villages—even off island forever—and then sanctimoniously says, "but I'm willing to compromise." Indeed!

Without data there is no way of knowing whether the income generated by the poker parlors outweighs the costs incurred in dealing with the consequences, which are considerable. To some extent, the same is true of the garment factories. Yes, they provide an income stream. But at what cost? A thorough cost-benefit analysis—for both the poker parlors and the garment industry—would appear to be much-needed—and long overdue.

Balancing the budget is not an easy process. More is at issue than merely examining income sources. One must also look at the costs incurred by those alleged income-producing activities to make sure that the net sum is positive rather than negative.

■ ■ ■

Despite the fact that some people, being squeamish, have objected, I think the Guam Visitor Bureau decision to make "Balate Bob" a tourism mascot is a great idea! It's creative, it uses local wildlife (rather than the CNMI's exotic and distinctly non-local panda), it is pro-tourist, and, most important of all, it is thoroughly pro-environment.

"Balate" is the Chamorro word for sea slug. Sea slugs, while a delicacy on some Asian menus, often arouses queasiness in tourists as well as locals, due to the fact that it regurgitates its internal organs if disturbed. Since it is a productive inhabitant of the shoreline (it cleans the sand) however, it plays an important role in the ecology of the seashore. Making Balate Bob a tourist mascot educates the tourist to its usefulness, explains what the balate is doing, and promotes its protection. It also honors a long-time member of the UOG Marine Lab, Dr. Robert Richmond.

Very clever! Very creative! Very appropriate!

■ ■ ■

Short takes:

With the Fiesta Mall posing such a dilemma, seems like it wouldn't be a bad idea to hold a CNMI-wide contest asking for ideas and suggestions as to what to do with it. There will be bound to be silly answers—like raze the whole thing (which might not be all that silly—it is a valuable piece of property), or put all the poker parlors (and strip joints) there—which also might not be all that bad of an idea either—but there might be some good ones as well. And it certainly beats letting it sit there idle, draining NMC's resources.

## The right can't win this fight

By **MAX BOOT**

Special to the Los Angeles Times

For decades, social conservatives have been fighting and losing culture wars. Contraception and abortion—once taboo topics—have been enshrined into law. The rates of premarital sex, out-of-wedlock births and divorce have soared since the 1950s (although lately most of these indexes have leveled off or declined slightly). In school, prayer is out; sex education is in. On TV, characters used to say "gee whiz" and sleep in twin beds; now they curse as if they had Tourette's syndrome and flash skin as if they were Gypsy Rose Lee.

This doesn't mean America is in cultural decline; no one who saw the response to 9/11 can think we are soft or decadent. It does mean there is little mystery about how the latest culture war—over gay marriage—will turn out. Opponents of same-sex marriages may have most of the public on their side for now, but they've already all but lost this battle.

How do I know? Simply by looking at the arguments being advanced by both sides. Advocates of same-sex marriage speak in the powerful language of civil rights and liken their cause to that of African-Americans fighting anti-miscegenation laws in years past. And what do opponents say in response? Once upon a time, the case would have been open and shut: Sodomy is a sin, period. Many people may still believe that, but that's no longer a tenable argument in our secularized politics.

The U.S. Supreme Court struck down anti-sodomy laws last year. The Episcopal Church has appointed an openly gay bishop. Many newspapers carry the equivalent of wedding announcements for gays. Same-sex kisses, once shockingly daring, are now almost as common on TV as commercials for Levitra or Prozac. Given this seismic cultural shift, anyone who makes avowedly moral arguments against homosexuality now gets treated the same way homosexuals were treated only a few years ago—as a sex-mad pervert.

Traditionalists have tried to put forward various nonmoral arguments against gay marriage, but none is particularly convincing. They argue, first, that we shouldn't tamper with thousands of years of tradition that holds that marriage is between a man and a woman. But 141 years ago we tampered with an equally old tradition: slavery. Their second argument is the slippery slope—first gay marriage gets legalized, then polygamy, pederasty, incest and who knows what. But this kind of reductio ad absurdum can be applied to just

Given the number of protests of bid awards—which not only tie up the courts and the projects but can incur considerable cost as well, wonder if it would help if periodic recognition/awards were given to those agencies whose Request For Proposals and Invitations For Bid don't get protested?

■

It sure would have helped if the NMI Retirement Fund had done a better job of informing its members that the required re-registration for group life insurance, despite the urgency of the notices, could not be done at the Retirement Fund office, but will have to be done at the JoeTen-Kiyu public library next week (May 24-28). Why wasn't that information included in its notices in the papers?

■

I still don't seem to have found the right button to push to get the table of contents of the Commonwealth Register published in the newspaper on a regular basis. The Register contains proposed regulations—which the general public has 30 days to comment on before they are adopted. But if the public does not know which regulations have been proposed, how can it make comments? To expect members of the public to go to the Attorney General's office on a monthly basis to read the Register in order to determine whether there is a proposed regulation they wish to comment on is a deprivation of the public right to know, to participate in its governance. Having to pay 50¢ per page if they find one is also an impediment to the right to know, to participating in governance.

■

Were those 300-400 Iraqi prisoners at Abu Ghraib prison who were released after news of prison torture there became public given any sort of de-briefing? Counseling? Apologies? Whether or not they were released in an effort to prevent their being questioned about torture at the prison—as some have said—releasing them without some sort of orientation is bound to have created yet another category of angry Iraqis with a grudge against the U.S.

■

Last but not least, does it scare anyone else to realize that the first person to be tried for mistreating Iraqi prisoners at the Abu Ghraib prison has already been arrested, tried, convicted, and sentenced, barely two weeks after his misdeeds were first revealed to the media?

*The writer is a librarian by profession, and a longterm resident of the CNMI. To contact her, send email to ruth.tighe@saipan.com.*

about anything. If liquor is legal for adults, why not for children? Society always draws the line somewhere.

The final and strongest argument of gay-marriage opponents: Don't let courts or a handful of mayors change the law on their own. Let's debate this democratically. Fine. But that will only delay the legalization of gay marriage; it won't stop it in most places. The Massachusetts judges whose diktat led to gay marriages in that state starting this week aren't operating in outer space. They are only slightly ahead of the societal consensus, just as the Supreme Court was only slightly ahead of the societal consensus when it legalized abortion in 1973. Nowadays, no matter what the court says, there isn't a state in the union that would illegalize abortion (although some might pass more restrictions than the justices would allow). In a few years, that may be true of gay marriage as well.

Faced with virtually inevitable defeat, Republicans would be wise not to expend too much political capital pushing for a gay-marriage amendment to the Constitution. They will only make themselves look "intolerant" to soccer moms whose views on this subject, as on so many others, will soon be as liberal as elite opinion already is.

The good news, from the conservative point of view, is that it's hard to imagine that legalizing gay marriage will make much difference in the lives of most people. Certainly it will have considerably less corrosive effect on society than the prevalence of divorce and out-of-wedlock childbearing.

If conservatives are worried about destigmatizing homosexuality, that's already happening. If they're worried this will lead to hordes of new "recruits" for the "other team" (as "Seinfeld" put it), that's not going to happen. Homosexuality always has been and always will be the preference of a tiny minority; most of us are biologically hard-wired for heterosexuality.

Since the ultimate concern of conservatives is to preserve the institution of marriage, they would probably be better off caving on gay marriage rather than acceding to the most popular alternative: civil union. Gay marriages won't affect straights. But if civil union laws were to catch on, as Jonathan Rauch argues in his provocative new book, "Gay Marriage," many heterosexuals would probably eschew marriage altogether. That would be worse for society than seeing Rosie O'Donnell get hitched.

*Boot, a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, writes a weekly column for the Los Angeles Times.*

# Our World At War

## Personal Histories of World War II in the Marianas

### Living through war...and peace

By TERRI FLORES  
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

“I remember vividly how the war began. It’s as if it was just yesterday...” so begins the story of the former Sister Maria Soledad Castro of the Mercedarian Missionaries of Berriz and now private citizen, Marie Soledad Castro.

Marie, who used to go with the name Soledad, travels from her home in Kansas City to Saipan every two to three years for summer breaks. Her vacation this year is an exceptional one. For Marie is back to walk the paths of nostalgia, joining the fast dwindling number of people and veterans who will be re-living memories of wartime Saipan, as the island commemorates the 60th anniversary of the Battle of Saipan.

Marie’s recollections of the life she and her family lived at the height of the battle of Saipan and the ensuing days that led to the island’s liberation from Japanese forces are full of anecdotes of people living in fear, suffering, hunger and deprivation. Yet despite her experiences on the harshness of war, one cannot but admire this woman who has developed a strong spirit and determination. Instead of letting the pains of war affect her outlook in life, Marie has chosen to share her memorable experiences in life, specially now with the Seabees veterans.

Marie was 11 years old, the second of six children of Pedro Deleon Castro and the former Virginia Camacho, when the war began. Except for Rosalia, the eldest of the brood, Marie together with her siblings Augustin, Francisco and Rita were with her parents when they went into hiding. Rosalia, who at the time of the attacks was already married, decided to stay with her husband’s family. Pedro, the youngest of the siblings was not born until 1950.

Marie said a man she and her family only came to know by the name “Swaysang” was responsible for keeping them safe during the American campaign to liberate the islands from Japanese soldiers.

“My father befriended this man whom I believed was an American spy. Swaysang was six feet tall, had a high-bridged nose and had fair complexion. We would see him every evening at about six o’clock, walking alone down the beach, as if waiting for someone. After the war, one of our family friends recalled seeing Swaysang, headphones in his ears, his head wrapped in bandage, going from cave to cave. I was told that as soon as he left a cave which was being used as a hiding place by the Japanese, the area gets bombed,” recalls Marie.

She said that throughout Swaysang’s friendship with her father, the generous

Japanese official not only gave her father information but he was also given a large amount of Japanese money that they both buried in Marpi. Marie said her father went back to the place where they kept the stash but, unfortunately, he could no longer find it because the place had been bulldozed. For a time being, Marpi was also declared off-limits by the American government.

For the Castros, the war hit close to home when, during one Sunday morning in 1943, Swaysang and Pedro Castro spoke for almost three hours in hushed tones. “On that morning, my father said that Swaysang had told him that war was imminent. Swaysang, however, assured my father that he would lead our family to a safe place where we can hide while the bombings were happening. We heeded his advice and when the bombings began, my family found ourselves holed up inside a big water tank still filled with three inches of water, hiding from the mortar shells and from the ongoing fighting.”

“My father wanted to get us to a more secure hiding place so, in the midst of the American bombings and under the bright sun, we got out of the tank to look for safer ground. We ended up at a nearby canal where we stayed for three days. From there, we could clearly see the airplanes flying low and dropping bombs.”

“Finally, after much thought, my father remembered the area that Swaysang said we could be safe. We made it to this place at Marpi Point that was the location of five caves, which we eventually shared with two other families—the Matsumotos’ and the Reyes’ and later on, the missionaries—the priests and the Mercedarian nuns. A total of more than 20 people lived out the war at that area where we were also rescued and liberated by American Marines. The missionaries were able to make their way to our hiding place because of Sister Remedios.”

Sister Remedios, whom Marie believes was 18 years old at the time,



Marie Soledad Castro point to the bronze plaque on one of the grave sites of World War II veterans.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Marie Castro at 39 years old in the United States.

was made in charge of taking care of the nuns and the priests. She is an aunt of Marie and is the brother of Gregorio Castro. Sister Remedios is the founder of the Sister Remedios Pre-School in Chalan Kanoa.

Marie describes sharing with the other people in the cave rice and meat during the first weeks into the war. “My father and my uncle Gregorio would go down the hill and cook rice and meat which came from a cow that they slaughtered. They would put out the fire every time they heard planes nearby.”

But the group’s food supply eventually dwindled to the point where they had nothing left to eat or drink. “When the food ran out, my father left the cave to look for something, anything, to eat because we were all starving. Since most of the nearby areas where we sought shelter were burnt because of the gunfire and the bombings, all my father could find nothing but a basket full of burnt sugarcane. He told my mother to take care of it.”

Marie also recalls a time when, while cooking food, her father and Uncle Greg saw a plane drop two bags that they thought contained bombs. “Suddenly, some Japanese soldiers came out of hiding and they retrieved the bags. We learned later that the bags had food and American propaganda in them and that the Japanese soldiers were just making sure that they did not reach the civilians who were hiding in the caves.”

One heart-wrenching story that Marie narrated was the time when the

group’s water supply had finally dried up. “It was days leading toward our rescue when our water supply finally ran out. We all were thirsty so my father and my uncle Greg went down to the ocean to get a bucket of seawater. As soon as they came back, all of us including the nuns and the priests ran to meet them, at least just to see and again taste water. The sight of people who were trying to make it to the bucket of water really moved me. With myself, I got some water and placed it on my mouth but it was so salty I could not swallow it. I cried because I was so thirsty. My father also took a cup of seawater and gave it to Mother Superior Mercedes Gonzalez. She took the water and she was about to drink it but she could not swallow because she could taste the salt in the water. Mother Superior Mercedes just took the cup of water and she looked up to heaven in tears. I will never forget that.”

The families and the nuns and priests who were sharing the cave with the Castros at the height of the bombings lived in constant fear for their lives: fear that they will get hurt or bombed to death or that a Japanese soldier may just decide to kill any of them.

“There was always a Japanese soldier near our cave. One time, he heard noise inside our cave. I saw the soldier motion for silence and he then drew a finger across his neck, meaning that he would not hesitate to kill all of us. I was scared.”

*To be continued tomorrow*

# CK Head Start ends school year

By CASSIE FEJERAN  
REPORTER

The cathedral silence that usually pervades the Joeten Kiyu Library was momentarily broken for a few hours late Friday afternoon when students, parents and teachers of Chalan Kanoa Head Start gathered for the school's graduation ceremony.

As the 89 graduates marched inside the building, parents flocked to the front door, taking snapshots of their kids.

Catalina Benedicto, Head Start Policy Council president, opened the floor by extending her appreciation to all the teachers' commitment in making the past year a success.

Certificates were given to the pupils by class, with Shirley Castro and Veronica Magofna lining up by the podium with the other teachers to call on their students. The CK Head Start staff were joined by Garapan site coordinator Tony Taylor in issuing certificates to the pupils.

Teacher Jerry Diaz stood behind the students to ensure that they are on their best behavior. "The kids have been practicing since 8:30-11:00 this morning," he said.

The pupils also performed for their parents, singing *I've Got The Head Start Feeling*. Teacher Lilia stood in the center, leading the song and dance for the kids.

When everything was over, the parents took the chance to take pictures of their kids.

One of the graduates, Shania Del Rosario, said she is excited to be going to the "big people" school.

The ceremony was short, but that



CASSIE DLG. FEJERAN

A Chalan Kanoa Head Start pupil entertains himself by blowing bubbles just before the start of the graduation ceremony.

did not stop parents and the children from marking the occasion by going out for a celebratory dinner. "I'm going to the China Restaurant," said PJ White Cepeda.



CASSIE DLG. FEJERAN

Proud parents of PJ White Cepeda pose with him after the graduation ceremony held at the public library.

Dressed in their best island-wear, students of the Chalan Kanoa Head Start fidget and chat with their classmates just before the start of ceremonies marking their graduation.

CASSIE DLG. FEJERAN

## ...as well as the Oleai Head Start

By CASSIE FEJERAN  
REPORTER

The Oleai Head Start held its graduation ceremony by the school's playground late Friday afternoon, with behaved pupils sitting quietly by the stage.

Vivian Nogis, Central Parent Involvement Committee president, and Head Start policy council representative Gol Corpuz started the ceremony with a few remarks welcoming the parents to the occasion.

The students then took the stage for a well-applauded performance, dancing to *Greased Lightning*. The parents were even more thrilled when the children segued to Britney Spears'

*You Drive Me Crazy*. The children then sang their farewell song *So Long*.

Teachers Patty Coleman, Lanelle Okawa, and June Ella Seman then took the stage to present the children's certificates of completion. The pupils waited by their seats for their name to be called.

Parents were also awarded for their dedication to the school. Recognizing the parent volunteers were teachers Janice Igisomar and Claire Dela Cruz.

At the close of the ceremony, Vivian Nogis invited the parents and graduates to join them for dinner by the playground. Games were also held for the kids to celebrate their last day at the Oleai Head Start.



CASSIE DLG. FEJERAN

The playground of the Oleai Head Start was filled with a gaggle of graduating children and excited parents and relatives, as the school held its graduation ceremonies late Friday afternoon.

Teachers Lanelle Okawa and June Ella Seman, together with former congresswoman Malua Peter, hand out the certificates of completion of the students.

CASSIE DLG. FEJERAN



CASSIE DLG. FEJERAN

Students of the Oleai Head Start hold on to their certificates of completion.

Living inside the cave meant that everyone had to carry out his or her conversations in whispers. Prayer also became an integral part of their daily lives.

"We did nothing there but just sit and pray. When we talked, we would always speak softly. There was no noise whatsoever. We also waited patiently if we will be able to have something to eat. All of us also found ourselves praying all the time. My mother would always pray 'Birhen del Carmen, Tampihan ni capamo...Blessed mother, please extend your cave and save us ...'"

Marie however does not recall hearing Mass during the time they were in hiding despite the presence of nuns and priests. "There were four openings in the cave where we hid. My family occupied one cave while the three remaining caves each went to the nuns, the priests and the Matsumotos and Reyes. This made it hard for us to gather together as a group to hear Mass so all of us just offered prayers on our own."

When the war broke, the Japanese considered the Mercedarian nuns and priests as U.S. spies. "The Japanese confined the missionaries to their convents and monasteries. Eventually, they were all taken to Chalan Galaide and then to Tapotchau. Sister Remedios, who was the caretaker of the missionaries, decided to bring them all to our property at Marpi Point. One of the nuns told us that they were so tired moving from one place to the other that upon reaching Tapotchau, they just decided to curl themselves like balls and roll their bodies downhill. All the missionaries were so muddy when they arrived at our place. Sister Remedios also said that while they were on the way to Marpi, they found one of the nuns lying on the ground, dead. The missionaries did not know what killed her; it may have been of a heart attack or a wound resulting from the constant bombing."

One of the wounded missionaries was Sister Angelica Salaberria who was hit by a bullet on the right side of her chest. "I remember when they came to Marpi, my mother, together with me and Sister Remedios, went down to the beach to wash the blood-soaked clothes of Sister Angelica. I was thinking at that time that had a Japanese soldier passed by, we would have been shot there. But I believe that it was God's providence that saved us."

The American soldiers who were tasked to look for the missionaries were also responsible for rescuing the Castros, the Matsumotos and the Reyeses. "The American soldiers were guided to our place by a family from San Roque who knew Sister Remedios was staying with us. To help them determine our exact location, the Americans shelled our cave and we felt a bit of dust come down on us. Except for some frayed nerves, no one got hurt. I also saw two American soldiers with rifles in their hands, pointing inside our cave, urging us to come out. As we were on our way out of the cave, I took with me a little basket that contained our family's jewelry but the soldier motioned to me to leave it behind and so I did."

Soon after the war, Marie together with the young ladies in the community, left Saipan for Pohnpei to attend a school run by the Mercedarians. She is

one of the few Chamorro women who has lived through the war and was fortunate enough to pursue an education.

"It was 1948. I was 15 years old when I left Saipan together with some girls from the community who wanted to further their education. The Mercedarians, all of whom were of Spanish descent, ran the school in Pohnpei. I remember that it was Father Costigan, a Jesuit priest who helped the nuns determine the school curriculum.

It was while Marie was a student that she, together with the girls she went to school with, decided to become a member of the Mercedarian Missionaries of Berriz. Marie said she became a nun because that was what she thought her parents wanted her to be. "I wanted to follow what my parents wanted me to do. Personally, I am always thankful that I joined the order because the training had made me into a strong person. I used to rely on my mother a lot but when I joined the missions, I became my own person."

While some of the girls later decided to leave their spiritual calling, Marie stayed on and in due course, she trained to become an educator. Marie would eventually find herself two decades after, renouncing her vows but not after serving as an educator fondly remembered for her involvement in local community activities.

It was in 1953, after six and a half years of residence in Pohnpei, that Marie decided to come back to Saipan as Sister Soledad. The good nun stayed on Saipan for 12 years serving as a teacher during the early years of Mt. Carmel School. Among those whose lives she has touched as Sister Soledad are former Lt. Governor Jesse Borja, Annie Tenorio Sablan, Vicente Borja, Jesus Sonoda and Jean Sablan of Pacific Gardenia, former lawmaker Bennet Seman, former Commissioner of Education Elizabeth Rechebei and Donald Torres, to name a few.

In 1966, Marie decided to heed the challenge of the Mercedarians who were looking at members who showed potential of advancing their education. "I was a student of Latin and modern math under Sister Felicia when I decided to take the SATs. I was very ambitious and since I wanted to further my education, I decided to approach my Superior to find out how I fared in the exams. It was not the habit among the nuns to disclose how well their students were faring in their studies. I learned that I was one of the top 10 students who scored well in the SATs and as a result, I was chosen to go to the U.S. where I planned to study psychology. I, however, ended up taking education upon the advice of my superior."

For the 33-year-old Marie, saying goodbye to the sixth grade students she had come to adore was both painful and difficult. "I had requested Sister Ana Maria Puyo, Mt. Carmel's principal at that time, not to tell my students that I was leaving. I left without saying goodbye and I learned later from Sister Ana that the children cried upon learning that I have gone to the US."

Marie attended Donnelly College in Kansas City and ultimately, she received her Bachelor of Science degree in education from St. Mary's University, also in Kansas City. In 1977, Marie earned her masters in Education from Webster University.

A confessed lover of history, Marie started to re-connect with her wartime past when, during her trip back to Saipan in 1994, she met six veterans who happened to be on island to participate in the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Saipan. The veterans were members of the Seabees, U.S. Navy men who helped reconstruct Saipan and the Marianas following the end of World War II.

"I met these gentlemen while I was having breakfast one Sunday morning with my sister Rita and my brother in-law, David Sablan. One of the men happened to be a resident of Kansas City and David gladly told the veteran that I was also a resident of Kansas City, Missouri. As a result, Ken Frederick, the organizer of the Seabees 1996 reunion in Wichita, invited me to attend the event and from then on, I became an honorary member of the group. This was how I began my involvement with the Seabees."

From that time on, Marie would don the Seabees hat and uniform. She would always had her picture taken with the veterans as part of her role as honorary member of this branch of the US Navy.

Marie finds these gatherings both heartwarming and memorable. "In a 1998 gathering, I was asked by the veterans to recount my experience of my first Christmas party and the first ice cream I tasted. That became the highlight of the reunion. Last year in a reunion in Oklahoma, one of the Seabees who lives in Florida brought a picture with him of a little girl. The minute I came in, he approached me and asked me 'Marie, do you remember me?' I just looked at him while he started to remind me about the Christmas tree and the doll that he gave me for Christmas. 'You made my day.' I remember Ken Grubb telling me that as he recalled how I became the recipient of his Christmas gift more than a decade ago. From that point on, Ken became a very close friend."

It was during the group's 1998 gathering in Tacoma, Washington where Marie met Otto, another veteran who gave Marie his collection of World War II photos that he took on Saipan. "I pledged Otto that I will take care of the photos he gave me since it meant a lot to him. He had tears in his eyes as he handed me the pictures. His gesture meant a lot to me because like all the other veterans, Otto, who was at the prime of his life when the war happened, also underwent a lot of fighting for their country."

This year, however, Marie has decided to break her annual tradition. Since the 60th anniversary celebration of the Battle of Saipan coincides with the Seabees reunion in Seattle, Marie has opted to stay here and join in remembering one of World War II's bloodiest conflicts. "My Seabees friends understand. In fact, they sent me some pictures so they will be here with me in spirit."

Nowadays, aside from traveling the nation to take part in the yearly Seabees reunion, Marie for the most part of the year busies herself with socio-civic activities in her hometown in Kansas City, Missouri. She is a member of several organizations including the Catholic Alumni Club where she has served as its president and vice-president.

True to the ideals of being a Merce-

darian missionary, Marie continues to raise funds for the order through the Ladies Auxiliary. Marie indulges her creative spirit in playing the piano through her involvement with the Organ Club. A proud member of the Democratic Party, Marie is now preparing for her role in the upcoming U.S. presidential elections being a supervisory judge for the Kansas City Board of Elections during Election Day.

Having lived through a war decades ago that caused the destruction of her native island and now, seeing another war being fought by Americans in the Middle East, Marie has this to say: "It is inevitable that war happens because we experience suffering and oppression. War is both good and bad because it opens people's minds and they get liberated. People, however, have to get on with life because this is what we are here for. I am against war. I want to see peace."

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# Dollars & Sense

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CORPORATE*Roundup*



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# United States

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# American suspect in Spain blasts profiled

**PORTLAND, Ore.** (AP)—The first American arrested in the deadly train bombing in Madrid is a former Army lieutenant and a convert to Islam who lives in a nondescript suburban home and faithfully attends a nearby mosque.

Family members say Brandon Mayfield is innocent and has never even been to Spain. But law enforcement officials there said Friday that his fingerprints had been found on bags containing detonators of the kind used in the March 11 attack, which killed 191 people and injured 2,000 others.

He is being held as a material witness, which allows the government to detain him without filing formal charges, to allow time for further investigation.

“I think it’s crazy—we haven’t been outside the country for 10 years,” said his wife, Mona. “They found only a part of one fingerprint. It could be anybody. He was in the Army and they’re just trying to fit a certain profile.”

Mayfield, 37, is an attorney who took low-income immigration and family-law clients at his practice in suburban Portland, once representing Muslim terrorism suspect Jeffrey Battle in a child custody case.

Battle was among six Portland-area residents who were sentenced last year on charges of conspiring to wage war against the United States by helping al-Qaida and the former Taliban rulers of Afghanistan.



Mayfield

Mayfield was born in Oregon and grew up in Halstead, Kan., a small farming town about 30 miles northwest of Wichita. He joined the Army right out of high school and was stationed in Germany among other places. He later earned a law degree and settled down in Portland, where he and his Egyptian-born wife have three children.

“He has always been a delight,” said his stepmother, Ruth Alexander of Halstead, recalling a compassionate child who once kept a pet grasshopper. “This is positively unbelievable. He was never in any trouble growing up.”

Mayfield met his wife on a blind date in 1987 while stationed at Fort Lewis near Tacoma, Wash. Records from Washoe County, Nev., show the two were married in 1988. Their children are ages 10, 12 and 15.

Their youngest was born on the Bitburg air base in western Germany, where Mayfield was stationed in the air defense unit. Mona Mayfield, 35, said her husband’s only trip to the Middle East was in 1993, when the couple and their children took a 30-day leave to travel to Egypt.

Mayfield was honorably discharged in 1994, after a shoulder injury. He attended Lewis & Clark law school in Portland for a semester, and received his degree from Washburn University in Kansas. He passed the Oregon bar in 2000.

OB/LIZAMA

# Methodists endorse church unity after rift

**PITTSBURGH** (AP)—United Methodists hugged and wept as they overwhelmingly endorsed church unity Friday, a day after a rift over homosexuality broke wide open with an evangelical proposal to split the denomination.

Choking back emotions, delegates spoke in support of the unity resolution at the end of their national policy meeting, which is held once every four years. The measure passed 869-41, with eight abstentions.

“Our denomination was very clear today. We are going to continue as the United Methodist Church as we know it,” said the Rev. John Schol of West Chester, Pa., who organized a group to draft the resolution. “I think we’ll come back in four years a stronger denomination.”

On Thursday, the Rev. William Hinson, a prominent Methodist pastor and president of the conservative Confessing Movement, startled many General Conference participants by announcing he could no longer endure the

dispute over homosexuality that has dragged on since 1972.

He said he had concluded that opposing sides in the debate could never reconcile their views on what the Bible says about gays, so they should divide up the church. The 8.3 million-member denomination is the third-largest in the country.

Hinson said he did not interpret Friday’s vote as a repudiation. Conservative leaders plan to spend the next four years building support among local congregations for a schism.

“I know unity is important, but someone said if you sacrifice truth on the altar of unity you lose both,” Hinson said.

Several hundred evangelical delegates, who had gathered for their daily breakfast strategy session, gave Hinson a standing ovation Friday when he rose to address them. Scott Field, legislative coordinator for a coalition of evangelicals, said they had been flooded with “thumbs-up e-mails and phone calls” in response to the pastor’s speech.

PETE A

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# Life & Style

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Dollars & Sense

Consumer prices keep climbing in April

By JEANNINE AVERSA  
AP WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—Inflation appears to be stirring from its hibernation. Consumer prices are advancing in the first four months of this year at a pace twice as fast as the increase for all of 2003.

That in turn is increasing chances that the Federal Reserve will boost interest rates next month, according to a growing number of analysts. They point to a string of economic reports, from sizable gains in the nation’s payrolls to brisk manufacturing activity, that paint a picture of an economic resurgence that is beginning to fan inflation.

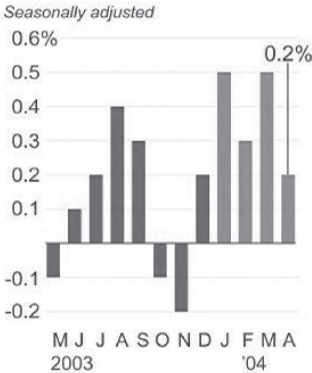
“The economy is just taking off and is taking inflation with it,” said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Economy.com. “I think it is just too much for the Fed to ignore, and they will have to tighten policy in June.”

From January to April, consumer prices rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.4 percent, compared with a 1.9 percent increase for last year, the Labor Department reported Friday. This year’s pickup has been led by sharply higher energy prices, especially for gasoline.

The core rate of inflation, from which energy and food

Consumer prices

Here is a look at percent changes from the preceding month in the Consumer Price Index.



SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics AP

prices are excluded, has risen so far this year by 3 percent, outpacing the 1.1 percent rise for 2003.

“Inflation is peeking out from underneath the covers,” said Bill Cheney, chief economist at MFC Global Investment Management, though economists don’t view the price acceleration as particularly worrisome at this point.

In other economic news Friday, the Federal Reserve reported that industrial production jumped by 0.8 percent in April, the biggest increase since November, up from a 0.1 percent dip in March.

The Commerce Department said businesses boosted their

inventories by 0.7 percent in March, a sign that companies feel more confident in the recovery’s staying power. Business sales rose by 2.9 percent in March.

The Dow Jones industrials, meanwhile, edged up 2.13 points to close at 10,012.87.

On inflation, some companies, which have had to keep a lid on price increases during the economic slump, are finding it easier to raise prices now that the economy is rebounding. Wholesale prices in April posted their biggest increase in a year, the

government reported Thursday.

While recent economic reports show inflation moving higher, Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan and his colleagues indicated at their meeting last week they are not yet worried. “Long-term inflation expectations appear to have remained well contained,” they said in their report of the session.

Thus, the Fed decided to hold short-term interest rates at a 46-year low of 1 percent, unchanged since last June. The central bank signaled, however,

that rates could move higher now that the economic recovery has firm roots.

An increasing number of economists now believe the Fed will begin raising rates at its next meeting June 29-30, saying Friday’s inflation report, along with a recent batch of mostly strong economic data, would justify such a move.

“Put a fork in the 1 percent funds rate. It’s done,” said Joel Naroff, president of Naroff Economic Advisors. “The steady, upward creep in inflation contin-

ues and will have to be addressed fairly soon by the Fed.”

Some economists predict a rate increase will come in August; a few think it will come even later.

Analysts don’t believe inflation threatens the recovery, but the upward movement in inflation marks a big change in the pricing climate from a year ago. Then, the Fed worried about the possibility of deflation, a prolonged and widespread price decline.

In April, consumer prices rose by 0.2 percent, while core prices went up 0.3 percent.

WTO members say trade talks on track

PARIS (AP)—Global trade talks are back on track, leading members of the World Trade Organization said Friday, after the United States, Europe and key developing countries bridged some of their differences at a series of meetings in Paris.

U.S. Trade Representative Robert Zoellick said he was optimistic that a deal could be reached by July to relaunch the stalled Doha round of trade talks aimed at slashing subsidies, import tariffs and other barriers to global commerce.

“Doha remains America’s top trade priority,” Zoellick said. “President Bush has instructed me to spare no effort to accomplish this end.”

Brazil, which heads the so-called G20 group of developing nations, also said progress had been made.

“I sense a positive movement of all major actors and it makes me optimistic,” Foreign Minister Celso Amorim said.

The G20 agreed Friday to team up with Australia, Canada and the rest of the 17-member Cairns group of agricultural exporters to draft proposals for

cuts in farm produce import tariffs—now the main obstacle to a new WTO deal.

Global trade relations were chilled by the collapse last September of the 147-member organization’s last formal ministerial meeting in Cancun, Mexico.

But they began to thaw this week after the European Union agreed in principle to scrap export subsidies on farm produce—blamed for hurting producers in poor countries—and dropped controversial demands for new global rules on investment, competition and government procurement.

The United States has already signaled readiness to scrap its own much smaller export subsidies and trade-distorting export credits, but both Washington and Brussels have stressed that the concessions are conditional on poorer countries agreeing to open their own markets.

Speaking hours before the joint G20-Cairns group initiative was announced, Zoellick called on developing countries to move beyond the subsidies issue and “look at what we can do together on market access.”

trib graduation ad

## United States

## The stories behind the prison photos

By JOSH WHITE and  
CHRISTIAN DAVENPORT  
THE WASHINGTON POST

The images are so widespread that the mention of the words "Abu Ghraib" instantly conjures visions of singular moments, harrowing, disturbing, even violent—but lacking context.

And they have left many questions unanswered. How did the man with the wires get there? Why is the soldier holding the man by a leash? Are the pictures staged?

Now, with sworn statements obtained by The Washington Post, in which both the soldiers charged in the abuse and the alleged victims have told investigators their views of what happened, the stories behind the photographs have begun to take shape.

Pfc. Lynndie England had a chance to explain why she was standing in a prison hallway, holding a naked man on a leash. She said another widely reproduced photograph of a fellow soldier threatening to hit a detainee was a ruse. He never did follow through, she said. Spec. Jeremy Sivits, however, described how soldiers did in fact punch detainees, even knocking one unconscious.

There are also the detainees' versions. One prisoner, who tells investigators he was among those forced to lay in a pile of naked men—a formation captured in one of the first Abu Ghraib photos to be released—said the guards "treated us like animals, not humans. ... No one showed us mercy."

Then, finally, there is a voice for the man seen worldwide with arms outstretched and wires attached to his body.

In sparse, pained language, he described standing there wearing nothing but a hood and a blanket as a soldier put "electrical wires on my fingers and toes and on my penis."

He heard someone say, "Which switch is on for electricity?" Then, through his hood, he saw a flash of light and knew someone just took his picture.

A soldier, Spec. Sabrina Harman, gave investigators another perspective. The man attached to the wires was nicknamed "Gilligan," she said. "He was just standing on the box with the sandbag over his head for about an hour. I put the wires on his hands. I do not recall how. I was joking with him and told him if he fell off he would get electrocuted."

The soldiers displayed a broad range of emotions while discussing the abuse captured in the photographs. At times, they delighted in what was being done to the prisoners, likening them to pranks. Other soldiers participated reluctantly, they said, posing in the pictures at the direction of others.

Sgt. Javal S. Davis said he questioned the morality of what was happening. Others said they were surprised at the sudden bursts of violence that were unleashed on the prisoners. They were contrite about not doing more to stop it.

The prisoners expressed an amalgam of humiliation and horror as they described being photographed as part of a human pyramid, being forced to masturbate or standing in uncomfortable positions handcuffed to a cell door.

One told of being stripped and forced into the pile. He said he was handcuffed to a bed, and that a soldier punched "us in the stomach and hit us on the head and face. ... When I see him, I'm scared to death."

But he seemed to know that, coming from a prisoner, his words would be viewed with skepticism. And so he told the investigators another thing, something that would confirm everything he had described: The soldier who abused him took pictures, he said, and they are out there somewhere.

Find the pictures, he said, "and you will find everything I said was true."

### The Electrocution Threat

The photo of the hooded man standing on a box was one of the first images to emerge in the Abu Ghraib prison scandal, and it is one of the most indelible. The detainee's emotion was fear; the soldiers described it as a joke in interviews with investigators.

Abdou Hussain Saad Faleh told Army investigators that Spec. Charles A. Graner Jr. took him to Abu Ghraib's Room No. 37, a shower room, where Graner allegedly "started punishing" him. Then the detainee nicknamed Gilligan by soldiers was ordered to stand on a box of food, clothed only in a blanket.

An unidentified soldier then put the bag over his head. Wires were attached to his fingers, toes and genitals.

The wires stretched to the back wall of the room, behind the detainee.

"Which switch is on for electricity?" a male soldier said, before screaming at Faleh through a loudspeaker, according to the detainee's statement.

Harman told investigators that she, Graner and Staff Sgt. Ivan L. "Chip" Frederick II were there when the picture was taken. She said the detainee stood on that box for about an hour.

Her statement to a special agent with the Army Criminal Investigation Division on Jan. 15 detailed this exchange:

"Agent: Who took the pictures of this?"

"Harman: I took one and Frederick took one."

"Agent: Why did you do this to the detainee 'Gilligan'?"

"Harman: Just playing with him."

Faleh said he was made to pose and then he fell because of exhaustion. He said Graner then ordered him to stand up and hold a box of food, depicted in another photograph obtained by The Post this week.

"I was so tired, and I dropped it," Faleh told investigators. "He started screaming at me in English. He made me lift a white chair high in the air. ... And I slept after that for about an hour, and then I woke up at headcount time. I couldn't go back to sleep after that because I was very scared."

### The Leash

Judging from the photo itself, it is unclear whether England is dragging the grimacing, naked prisoner across the floor, or if she is just standing there holding the leash around his neck.

According to the statement she gave



In this undated still photo provided by The Washington Post on Friday, May 21, 2004, a hooded Iraqi detainee appears to be cuffed at the ankle chained to a door handle while being made to balance on two boxes at the Abu Ghraib prison on the outskirts of Baghdad.

investigators, it is the latter—and it was not her idea.

England, whose family said she processed inmates but did not work inside the cellblock, said she visited a wing where many prisoners were held. Only two soldiers were on duty, Graner and Spec. Megan Ambuhl.

They had mentioned that there was a detainee named "Gus" in solitary confinement, England said. He had been arrested for "attacks on coalition forces," she said, and had told other soldiers that he "hated Americans and wanted to kill us."

Graner had suggested taking a picture of the detainee, and he wanted England to pose, "pretending to drag him on a leash-type thing," she said.

Graner got out the leash, and they went down to a solitary confinement cell where the detainee was being held, she said. The detainee emerged naked but not handcuffed. And after Graner made him lay down on the floor, she said, he loosely looped the strap around his neck and handed it to her.

Then he got out his camera, she posed and he snapped a photo.

"I did not drag or pull on the leash," she said. "I simply stood with the strap in my hand. Gus started to crawl on the floor and ... Graner took another picture. We then took the strap off of him and placed him back in his cell."

All this time, she said, Ambuhl stood and watched.

### The Dogs

Dogs appear in at least four photographs with their unidentified handlers, who seem to be restraining the animals from attack. Terroris etched on the prisoners' faces as they cower, some in prison hallways, another backed into a corner, another naked against a wall.

The dogs are unmuzzled, and in some images their teeth can be seen. They are face to face with the inmates. "I recall an occasion when two dogs

were brought into 1A to scare an inmate," Harman said.

"He was naked against the wall when they let the dogs corner him. They pulled them back enough and the prisoner ran ... straight across the floor like he was trying to jump in their arms. The prisoner was cornered and a dog bit his leg."

This, apparently, wasn't enough for the handlers. According to Harman's account, the dogs were kept close enough to the detainee so they could strike again. "A couple seconds later he started to move again, and the dog bit his other leg," Harman said. "The guy ran straight for the door, where they tackled him."

According to Harman's account, she ran to get a first-aid kit and another soldier then came to help stitch up the detainee's wounds: "Pictures were taken, but not by us," she said. "The dog handlers have copies."

Harman said the handlers appeared in the cellblock by themselves. One detainee, Ameen Saeed Al-Sheik, said the soldiers threatened to unleash the dogs on him if he didn't tell them what they wanted to hear.

"They said they will torture me, and they will come every single night to ask me the same question accompanied with soldiers having weapons," he said. "And they point a weapon to my head and threaten that they will kill me, sometime(s) with dogs. And they hang me to the door allowing the dogs to try to bite me."

### The Naked Pyramid

It was the night of Nov. 8, and documents show that seven prisoners were brought into Tier 1 at Abu Ghraib for allegedly starting a riot in the outside tents at the prison compound. The detainees were dragged into piles, stripped and at times hit, according to photos and videos.

Then, soldiers told investigators, someone came up with the idea of plac-

ing the naked detainees into a pyramid in the middle of the floor. One detainee after another was put in a crouching position on the floor and a soldier directed the action. One by one they were placed on top of one another, forming a human tower.

The picture, of soldiers grinning behind the pile is one of the most widely known images of humiliation at Abu Ghraib.

Harman said Graner was placing the detainees into position, and said the entire pyramid lasted 15 to 20 minutes. Sivits said he was surprised by some of what the soldiers were making the detainees do, which later included a string of naked, hooded detainees standing in a line masturbating.

"I was laughing at some of the stuff that they had them do," Sivits told investigators. "I was disgusted at some of the stuff as well. As I think about it now I do not think any of it was funny."

The investigator then asked: "What part did you think was funny?"

Sivits answered: "The tower thing."

Shortly after, the documents show, the detainees were ordered to masturbate while soldiers stepped back to take photos and video. England said she was then asked to walk over and point at one of the men, which she said she did reluctantly.

"I really didn't want to get that close him masturbating but posed for the picture anyway," she said, referring to the well-known photo in which she points cheerily at a detainee's genitals, a cigarette hanging lazily from her mouth.

### Punches and Kicks

Shalan Said Alsharoni, a detainee at Abu Ghraib, told investigators that the beatings were commonplace, intertwined with "torture" that included soldiers hitting prisoners' genitals with gloved hands. Alsharoni recalled an incident that appeared very similar to the image depicted in the photo, when he said a group of detainees resisted being placed naked next to each other.

"And when they refused, Graner beat them up until they put them on top of each other and they took pictures of them," Alsharoni said, according to the documents. "After they brought six people, and they beat them up until they dropped on the floor and one of them his nose was cut and the blood was running from his nose and he was screaming but no one responded."

Davis said he became emotional when dealing with some of the detainees.

"I did step on the inmates' hands and feet on purpose and not on purpose," Davis said. "I was very upset at the inmates for wanting to kill some of my fellow soldiers from my company. I wanted to scare them."

England told investigators that not all of the photos are what they appear to be. She said the photo of a soldier cocking his fist was a ruse.

"Graner and Frederick told me to grab the camera and get some pictures of them pretending to hit the prisoners," England said in her statement. "While I was taking the pictures at no time did they actually hit the prisoners."

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# United States

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# Life & Style

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## Maria Shriver talks politics on Jay Leno

**BURBANK, Calif. (AP)**—President Schwarzenegger? Maria Shriver said Friday she supports a proposed constitutional amendment that would allow people born outside the United States—like her husband, California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger—to run for president.

“We are a nation of immigrants. That’s how we started,” she told Jay Leno on NBC’s “The Tonight Show.” “If people come here and live 20 years, work for this country, believe that they can change it, I don’t think we are in any position to say, ‘No, you are not capable, you are not OK to run.’”

Whether she would want her husband to seek the nation’s highest office, however, is another question.

“I’m just trying to get through this gig,” she said.

Shriver’s remarks vaguely echoed those of her uncle, Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., who said in March that Schwarzenegger should be allowed to run for president. Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, said last year he would seek to lift the ban on a foreign-born president, allowing anyone who has been a U.S. citizen for two decades to campaign for the country’s highest office.

Under Article II of the Constitution, “No person except a natural born citizen, or a citizen of the United States at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the office of president.”

When he’s been asked about presidential ambitions, Schwarzenegger, a first-term Republican, has said he’s focusing on his job in Sacramento. But the Austrian-born governor, who became a U.S. citizen in 1983, also has said amending the Constitution “sounds really good.”

Shriver said that although filling the role of first lady has been a pleasure, she did all she could to discourage her husband from running in last year’s recall election.

“I started crying. Then I started shaking. Then I started screaming. Then I started throwing myself down. Nothing worked,” she said.

Why was she against it?

“My experience ... with politics is that everybody in my family had died in politics,” she said, alluding to her uncles, John and Robert Kennedy. “I was concerned about it for my kids.”

## Helen Hunt gives birth to baby girl

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—“As Good As It Gets” actress Helen Hunt has something that makes life even better: a new baby girl.

Hunt, who won an Oscar for that movie, gave birth to the child in Beverly Hills, publicist Stephen Huvane told The Associated Press Friday.

Makena’ lei Gordon Carnahan, born May 13, and her mom are both healthy, Huvane said. The father is Hunt’s companion, Matthew Carnahan, who produced the TV series “Fastlane.”

The baby’s first name comes from a town in Maui, Hawaii, and her middle name is from Hunt’s father, TV director Gordon Hunt. She arrived several weeks early, weighing about 6 pounds.

This is the second child for Carnahan and the first for the 40-year-old Hunt, who previously was married to Hank Azaria, who voices several characters on “The Simpsons.”

Hunt, former co-star of the sitcom “Mad About You,” hasn’t appeared in a movie since 2001’s “The Curse of the Jade Scorpion.” She’ll be in two upcoming films: the Oscar Wilde adaptation “A Good Woman” with Scarlett Johansson, and the HBO movie “Empire Falls,” based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Richard Russo, which co-stars Ed Harris



Actress Helen Hunt arrives for the Academy Awards on March 24, 2002, in Los Angeles.

## Estee Lauder to sell P. Diddy fragrances

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Estee Lauder Cos. said Friday it will sell a line of fragrances under the Sean John label of hip-hop music mogul Sean “P. Diddy” Combs.

Terms were not disclosed.

Sean John, a privately held company, debuted with a men’s sportswear collection in 1999. It has annual retail sales in the United States of more than \$350 million, Estee Lauder said.

The Sean John clothing line is going upscale, The New York Times reported Friday. This fall, Combs plans to add pinstripe suits and other elegant outfits to his athletics-inspired collections.

New York-based Estee Lauder said the development of the new fragrance line will be overseen by John Demsey, president of the contemporary M-A-C line.

“Sean Combs is the Great

Gatsby of our time,” Demsey said in a prepared statement. “I look forward to spearheading this project and to working with Sean, a visionary whose extraordinary intuition makes people want to see, wear and listen to all that he creates.”

Shares of Estee Lauder climbed 37 cents, or 0.8 percent, to close Friday at \$44.34 on the New York Stock Exchange.

## Poll: ‘Psycho’ is best movie death ever

**LONDON (AP)**—Janet Leigh’s shower scene in “Psycho” is the “best movie death” of all time, according to a critics’ poll published Thursday.

The 1960 Alfred Hitchcock thriller beat other iconic movies such as “The Godfather” (22nd) and Quentin Tarantino’s “Reservoir Dogs” (23rd) in the non-scientific poll by Total Film magazine.

Stanley Kubrick’s “Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned To Stop Worrying And Love The Bomb”

(1964) came in second, with its surreal ending in which Slim Pickens rides an atomic bomb.

Other highly rated movie deaths were the fatal plunge of the ape in 1933’s “King Kong,” which came in third place, and the demise of Bambi’s mother in the 1942 Disney movie “Bambi,” which came in sixth.

“Some of the deaths in the poll, like The Wicked Witch melting in ‘The Wizard Of Oz’ (13th), are iconic but laughable, but nearly 45 years on,

‘Psycho’s’ shower scene is still distressing,” said Total Film deputy editor Simon Crook.

“It’s the sheer violence of the edit rather than any explicit gore—70 different angles, over 90 cuts and those shrieking violins. It’s a master class in montage and audience manipulation.”

Crook added: “Knowing that the blood is Bosco’s chocolate syrup and that a pulped casaba melon stood in for the stabbing noises does nothing to reduce the impact.”

## China to keep foreign films out in July

**SHANGHAI, China (AP)**—Chinese moviegoers may have to wait just a little longer for the latest installments of “Spider-Man,” “Shrek” and “Harry Potter.”

China is suspending imports of foreign movies in July, apparently part of a campaign to protect the local film industry.

Despite the success of Chi-

nese director Zhang Yimou and a handful of others, China’s homegrown movie industry has been starved of box-office revenues by the plethora of pirated DVDs that sell for as little as \$1 each.

Adding to the industry’s woes, looser restrictions that followed China’s 2001 entry into the World Trade Organiza-

tion has meant foreign movies are being shown in ever greater numbers at local cinemas. And audiences seem to favor slick Hollywood productions over the dramas, slapstick comedies and communist propaganda films churned out by China’s state-run studios.

Local studios also make few films aimed at young audiences.

## Mom’s method of motivation is really just verbal abuse

By AVIGAIL VAN BUREN

**DEAR ABBY:** Ever since my last report card, my relationship with my mother has deteriorated. I got all A’s and B’s and have a 3.78 GPA. However, this isn’t good enough for Mom.

My mother went to Harvard and doesn’t understand why I can’t get a 4.0. She has started telling me what a failure I am, that I am worthless and have ruined her life. I know she’s probably saying these things without thinking, but it still hurts. She doesn’t apologize after her temper dies down—she just acts like everything is OK.

I don’t think I deserve to be treated this way. When I try to talk to her about it, she turns it around and says I deserve this treatment because I am a failure. I’m really hurting and don’t know what to do.

SAD DAUGHTER IN MANHATTAN BEACH, CALIF.



*Dear Abby*

**DEAR SAD DAUGHTER:** I disagree with your mother. Although she may think she is motivating you to do better, telling a child that she is worthless, a failure, and that she has “ruined her life” is verbal abuse. Please talk to an adult relative or counselor at school about interceding on your behalf with your mother, because her standards are unrealistic, and her method is destructive.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been married for 20 years to my high school sweetheart. He’s a great father and a hard worker. He has always been good to me—until a year ago when he came to me and confessed that he’d cheated on me with my best friend. I was devastated. The friendship was over, and I made my husband leave.

After things calmed down, we decided to try and work things out because we still loved each other and wanted to try—not just for us—but for our children.

I’m trying to pick up the pieces and trust him again, but there’s a problem. His job takes him out of town for days at a time, and when he comes home, I’m always checking his cell phone and credit card bills for any sign that he’s been unfaithful again. It’s been more than a year, but I still don’t trust him—or anyone, for that matter. When he’s home, we argue a lot.

The other day, he said, “Let’s get the kids, take off for the weekend and renew our vows, because I want to spend the rest of my life with you.” Our anniversary is coming up, but I thought it was an odd suggestion, given all our problems. I’m confused and deeply hurt and don’t know what I should do. Can you help me?

NO LONGER TRUSTING IN CALIFORNIA

**DEAR NO LONGER TRUSTING:** Your husband suggested renewing your vows because he loves you and wants to make a fresh start. It’s his way of trying to heal your marriage. However, what’s ailing your marriage is the fact you no longer trust him and really haven’t forgiven him for straying. Marriage counseling could help you both get past this. Once you have truly forgiven and are ready to make a fresh start, then renewing your vows is a wonderful idea.

**DEAR ABBY:** I am 13 years old and a cutter. I see a counselor and I used to be suicidal. I want to take medication so I can stop cutting, but I don’t know how to tell my mom. What should I do?

TROUBLED TEEN IN TEXAS

**DEAR TROUBLED TEEN:** Since you feel unable to discuss the subject with your mother, the next time you see your counselor, ask the counselor to help you talk to her. If medication is indicated for your problem, I’m sure the counselor will be happy to facilitate the conversation—or even talk to your mother for you.

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

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# Leonard, Lewis hold lead at windy Colonial

By **STEPHEN HAWKINS**  
AP SPORTS WRITER



**FORT WORTH, Texas** (AP)—Justin Leonard looked as if he

was on his way to another record round at the Colonial. Then he stumbled and had to settle for a share of the lead. With a 6-under 64 Friday, Leonard ended the second round at 6-under 134 and as co-leader with fellow Texan J.L. Lewis.

Leonard, who had a closing 61 in last year's Colonial, was 7 under through 11 holes in the second round Friday. Then he had consecutive bogeys.

Still, he managed to complete his lowest round of the season on a day when wind gusts of up to 25 mph made for more Colonial-like conditions.

"I've been struggling the last few months and showing signs of playing well at times," Leonard said. "So to go out and shoot a round like I did today, it feels pretty good. Hopefully, this is the beginning of some good play."

The eight-time PGA winner has missed just one cut in 13 tournaments. But Leonard hasn't finished better than 25th

since tying for ninth at the FBR Open on Feb. 1.

First-round leader Craig Perks (71) overcame a 4-over start through five holes and was within one stroke of the lead at 5-under 135.

"I gained a lot more confidence playing the way I did coming back," said Perks, whose only PGA win was at the 2002 Players Championship. "Yesterday, it was nearly too easy. Everything kind of fell into place. Today, it was just a grind, every shot, every hole."

Perks was tied with Robert Gamez (64), Jeff Maggert (69) and Steve Flesch (69). Zach Johnson, Lee Janzen and Stewart Cink were at 136.

After a front-side 31, Leonard chipped in from 28 feet for a birdie on the 407-yard 10th hole. But that wasn't his best shot.

From the fairway at the 611-yard 11th, 267 yards from the pin, Leonard hit a 2-iron. The ball landed just in front of the green, then rolled up and slid just over the lip of the cup. He made the 6-foot eagle putt.

Even after just missing a rare double-eagle, Leonard wasn't thinking about 61 or even a better score, like when Kenny Perry was running away with



Justin Leonard acknowledges the gallery after putting for birdie on the 16th hole in the second round of the Colonial in Fort Worth, Texas, Friday, May 21, 2004. Leonard shot a 6-under-par 64 for the day.

last year's tournament.

"Last year, I was thinking 59 after about 15 holes," Leonard

said. "But 7 under through 11, I'm just getting into the toughest part of the back nine. I wasn't

focused on that. I'm just trying to play one shot at a time."

Then came the bogeys. He three-putted on the 417-yard 12th and just missed the green on the 171-yard 13th.

"That was disappointing, a little bit deflating," Leonard said. "But then I made a good up-and-down on 14."

From the back of the No. 14 green, Leonard chipped to less than 4 feet. His last birdie came on a 22-foot putt at the 188-yard 16th.

Lewis took the lead with a bogey-free 66 in the morning, matching his season low round.

"I hit the ball well from tee to green," said Lewis, who hit 15 of 18 greens and had no three-putts. "I made some pretty good putts."

Lewis has just one top-10 finish this season, at the Bob Hope in January. He has since missed five of 12 cuts, with only one finish better than 25th.

Leonard was the only player who caught him. Phil Mickelson and Carl Pettersson couldn't sustain their charges.

After an opening 71, Mickelson was 5 under with six birdies through 11 holes Friday. The Masters champion, who missed his first cut of the season last week, then three-putted at the

par-3 13th and had pars the rest of the way.

"It's a very tough course with the wind blowing the way it is," said Mickelson, among seven golfers tied for 10th at 3 under. "I only made two bogeys. I feel like that was an accomplishment."

Pettersson was at 6 under with a share of the lead after starting his second nine with a 15-foot eagle putt on the 563-yard No. 1. That came after three straight birdies at Nos. 15-17.

The Swede couldn't maintain the momentum, shooting 7 over with two double bogeys his last seven holes. His 74 put him at 1-over 141 - seven strokes off the lead.

Last week, Gamez was so frustrated with his game that he broke a 3-wood on the driving range at the Byron Nelson Championship, then bent three more clubs over a chair in his room before the first round.

Getting some good results on the course made him feel even better.

"My attitude has been so bad on the golf course," Gamez said. "I've been trying too hard out there, I haven't let myself just play golf."

Until now. And it's paying off.

Gamez had six birdies over his last 11 holes, including a 20-footer to end his round.

## Ramirez, Reese lead Boston past Toronto



**BOSTON** (AP)—Manny Ramirez's solo homer broke an eighth-inning tie and Pokey Reese drove in three runs Friday night to lead the Boston Red Sox to a 11-5 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays.

"I was thinking, 'I want to hit one out because my (family) is here,'" he said.

Simon Pond hit his first major league homer for Toronto, a solo shot that tied it at 5 in the seventh. But Boston sent 11 batters to the plate in the eighth, scoring six runs.

Mike Timlin (3-1) threw two perfect innings in relief of Bronson Arroyo.

Micheal Nakamura (0-3) inherited a 5-5 tie when he came in to start the eighth inning and Ramirez greeted him with his 10th homer of the season.

"You're trying to match guys up as best as you can," Blue Jays manager Carlos Tosca said. "Manny can do that to anybody. I don't care who it is. The one thing you hope when he comes up there is that you keep him in the ballpark."

### Devil Rays 5, Indians 3

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Jose Cruz Jr. went 4-for-4 with a home run and three doubles as Tampa Bay beat Cleveland to win consecutive games for the first time this season.

Relievers Trevor Miller (1-1), Lance Carter and Danys Baez combined for six scoreless innings for the Devil Rays, who needed 40 games to record back-

to-back victories. They're the 11th team to go this deep into the season without two straight wins.

### White Sox 8, Twins 2

In Minneapolis, Mark Buehrle pitched seven solid innings, and Timo Perez and Jose Valentin each hit two-run homers as Chicago trounced Minnesota.

Buehrle (4-1) gave up two runs on seven hits and tied his season high with eight strikeouts. He improved to 12-4 against the Twins, the most victories he has against any opponent.

### Rangers 9, Yankees 7

In Arlington, Texas, Alex Rodriguez homered for New York in his return to Texas, but the Rangers got two two-run home runs from Laynce Nix and the victory.

Mark Teixeira doubled twice and scored three runs and rookie Frankie Francisco struck out Rodriguez, helping Texas rally from a three-run deficit.

### Athletics 7, Royals 0

In Oakland, California, Mark Mulder carried a no-hitter into the seventh inning and pitched his third straight complete game, and Bobby Crosby homered twice to lead Oakland past Kansas City.

Mulder pitched a three-hitter for his eighth career shutout, his first since blanking the Chicago White Sox on May 6 last year.

### Angels 5, Orioles 3

In Anaheim, California, Jose Guillen drove in the tying and go-ahead runs with a single off Darwin Cubillan during

a four-run eighth inning, and threw out a runner at the plate from left field as Anaheim beat Baltimore.

Scot Shields (4-0) allowed one hit over 1 1-3 innings, and Troy Percival got three outs for his 11th save. Anaheim is a major league-best 27-15.

### Tigers 5, Mariners 0

In Seattle, Nate Robertson (3-3) allowed six hits in seven innings, Carlos Pena hit a two-run homer and Eric Munson added a solo shot as Detroit blanked Seattle.

Al Levine allowed a hit in the eighth, and Ugueth Urbina pitched out of a bases-loaded jam with two outs in the ninth to complete Detroit's second shutout this season.

### Cardinals 7, Cubs 6

In Chicago, Albert Pujols and Jim Edmonds hit consecutive home runs and the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Chicago Cubs.

St. Louis won its third straight and moved a season-high four games above .500.

Moises Alou hit a late homer for the third straight day, connecting for a three-run shot in the Cubs' seventh. But he struck out to the game.

Chris Carpenter (5-1) got the win. Rookie Sergio Mitre (2-3) took the loss.

### Phillies 5, Padres 4

In Philadelphia, Chase Utley had three RBIs, including a go-ahead single in the eighth inning that capped a comeback from a three-run deficit in Philadelphia

victory over San Diego.

Utley, who had three hits, homered for the second straight game, and David Bell also homered for the Phillies.

### Reds 7, Astros 4

In Cincinnati, Ken Griffey Jr.'s slump-breaking double keyed a five-run rally in the seventh inning as Cincinnati beat Houston.

Griffey's double just inside first base snapped a 4-all tie and a personal 0-for-13 skid, sending the Reds to their sixth victory in seven games. Cincinnati has surged into a second-place tie with Chicago in the National League Central, a game behind the Astros.

### Giants 6, Expos 5

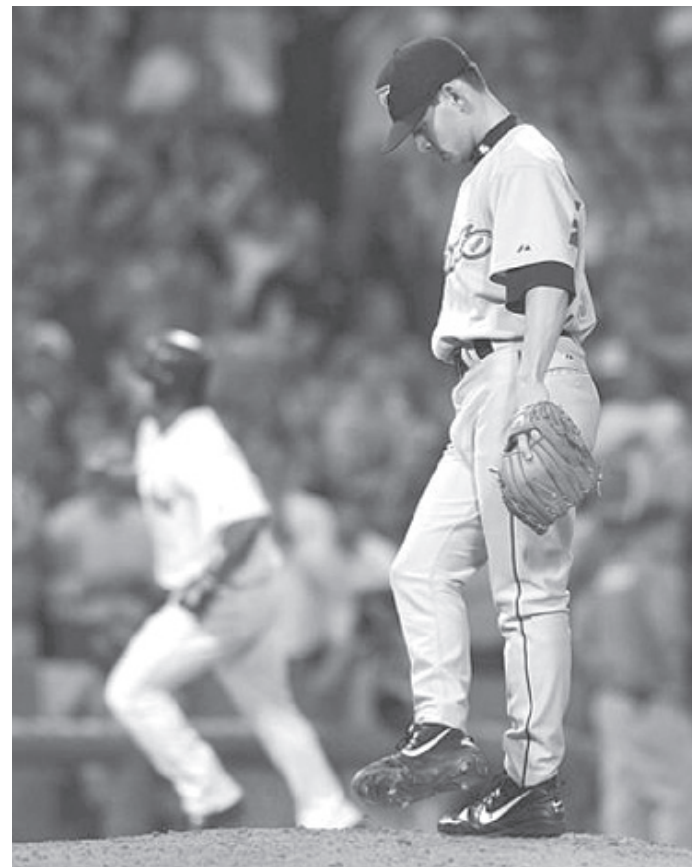
In San Juan, Puerto Rico, Barry Bonds drew a leadoff walk to spark a six-run seventh inning that carried San Francisco over Montreal.

Bonds played despite a sore back that had kept him out of the last two games. He said he wanted the fans in San Juan—where the Expos play 22 of their home games—to get a chance to see him in action.

### Braves 2, Dodgers 0

In Atlanta, Chipper Jones homered in the seventh inning to break up a scoreless duel between Russ Ortiz and Odalis Perez as Atlanta blanked Los Angeles.

The Dodgers have lost eight in a row—their longest slide since June 1992, when the team dropped 10 straight.



Toronto Blue Jays pitcher Michael Nakamura kicks the mound as Boston Red Sox' Manny Ramirez rounds the bases on his home run in the bottom of the eighth inning at Fenway Park in Boston, Friday, evening May 21, 2004.

### Mets 9, Rockies 7

In New York, Mike Piazza homered and Danny Garcia had two of the New York Mets' nine doubles against Colorado.

Matt Ginter (1-0) got his first win as a starter, and Jason Phillips added two doubles for the Mets.

The Mets knocked around rookie Jason Young (0-1) as if they were playing in the thin Colorado air, getting six runs in the first three innings on eight hits, including a home run and five doubles.

### Marlins 6, Diamondbacks 5, 10 innings

In Miami, Mike Redmond drew a bases-loaded walk to force in Florida's winning run over Arizona.

Juan Pierre led off the 10th with a single, and stole second one out later. Reliever Brian Bruney (2-1) intentionally walked Miguel Cabrera and then walked Abraham Nunez to load the bases.

Armando Benitez (1-0) walked three in a scoreless 10th for the victory.

# Lakers top T-Wolves 97-88 in series opener

By GREG BEACHAM  
AP SPORTS WRITER



**MINNEAPOLIS** (AP)—Shaquille O'Neal and the Los Angeles Lakers gave an early preview of the tenacity and cool necessary to win in the Western Conference finals. And even in defeat, you can bet Kevin Garnett was paying attention. O'Neal had 27 points, 18 rebounds and a superb performance at the free-throw line, and Kobe Bryant added 23 points in the Lakers' 97-88 victory over the Minnesota Timberwolves in Game 1 on Friday night.

Karl Malone had 17 points and 11 rebounds for the Lakers, who showed perfect poise against the pressure from the Timberwolves and a deafening Target Center crowd enjoying their first trip to the conference finals.

Executing almost flawlessly in their offensive sets, Los Angeles made just two turnovers

in the second half, running the triangle offense and countless pick-and-rolls to perfection—and when Minnesota fouled O'Neal, the 38-percent playoff foul shooter went 9-for-11.

The Lakers nursed a narrow lead through most of the fourth quarter until Derek Fisher, who had 14 points, made a 3-pointer from the corner with 58 seconds left, essentially clinching the win. Fisher also scored eight points in the final minutes of the third quarter to put Los Angeles ahead for good.

Garnett had 16 points and 10 rebounds for the Timberwolves, back in action two days after finishing an exhausting seven-game series against Sacramento. Latrell Sprewell had 23 points, and Sam Cassell added 16 points and eight assists despite being limited by his sore back.

Game 2 is Sunday night. The series moves to Los Angeles on Tuesday.

Coach Phil Jackson's smile indicated his pleasure with the

Lakers' strong start in their quest for their fourth conference championship in five seasons. It was their fifth straight victory, and it followed much the same script as their four wins over San Antonio: good defense, proficient offense and far too much Shaq and Kobe.

Neither team took a significant lead until late in the third quarter, when Fisher's back-to-back 3-pointers were followed by another from Kareem Rush. Fisher added a jumper with 2.1 seconds left, and the Lakers went into the fourth up 78-67 while holding Minnesota without a field goal in the final 3:41.

The Timberwolves got within 88-86 on Sprewell's jumper with 4:04 left, but the Lakers finished the game on a 9-2 run, starting with Devean George's electrifying one-handed dunk.

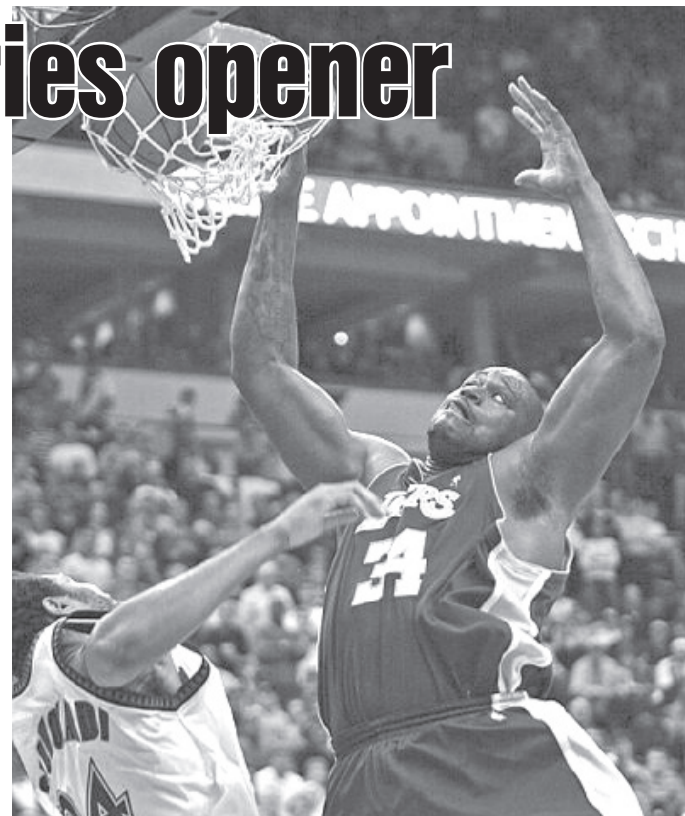
Michael Olowokandi had 10 points and 11 rebounds while playing solid defense against O'Neal—but even the best defense only slows the Diesel, who

got plenty of good shots and set up others for his teammates by drawing a double-team.

The series' biggest one-on-one matchup was a draw, because Sprewell and Bryant couldn't stop each other for even a moment. Bryant scored 14 points in the second half, while Sprewell had 18.

The Lakers had five days off after eliminating the defending champion Spurs, while the Wolves had a quick turnaround. The difference in preparation wasn't obvious in the tight early score, but Minnesota clearly could have used more time to recuperate: Cassell's aching back betrayed him on every step from the locker room to the court.

Minnesota has a gang of five expendable big men capable of dispensing 30 fouls against O'Neal, should coach Flip Saunders choose to play Hack-a-Shaq. But after making less than 38 percent of his free throws in the first two rounds, O'Neal didn't miss in the second half.



Los Angeles Lakers' Shaquille O'Neal slam dunks over Minnesota Timberwolves' Michael Olowokandi in the fourth quarter of Game 1 of their NBA Western Conference Finals series Friday in Minneapolis.

## Williams to be retried in death case

**SOMERVILLE, N.J.** (AP)—Former NBA star Jayson Williams will be retried on a reckless manslaughter charge in the death of a limousine driver two years ago, prosecutors said Friday.

The widely expected announcement came three weeks after a jury delivered a mixed verdict in Williams' trial. The judge set a tentative date for the new trial on Jan. 10, 2005.

Williams was acquitted of the most serious charge last month, aggravated manslaughter, but the jury was deadlocked 8-4 on reckless manslaughter. The charge carries up to 10 years in prison.

The former NBA All-Star also was cleared of aggravated assault and a weapons charge, but convicted on four counts stemming from a failed effort to conceal the shotgun shooting of Costas "Gus" Christofi.

Williams' defense maintained the shooting was an accident, and that the weapon misfired. Defense attorneys said Friday that they were not surprised by the retrial announcement.

Williams, 36, remains free on bail. He faces anywhere from probation to about five years in prison on the cover-up charges, but Superior Court Judge Edward M. Coleman ruled Friday that Williams will not be sentenced on those counts until the reckless manslaughter case is resolved.

Family members of the victim praised prosecutors for pursuing another trial, but were upset that Williams will not be sentenced sooner.



Mike Montgomery, left, and Chris Mullin, executive vice president of basketball operations for the Golden State Warriors, laugh as Montgomery answers questions at a news conference announcing his hiring as head coach of the Warriors in Oakland, Calif., on Friday, May

## Montgomery takes over at Golden State

**OAKLAND, Calif.** (AP)—Mike Montgomery admitted to Chris Mullin right away that he doesn't know all the inner workings of the NBA, and that honesty impressed Mullin.

Montgomery left Stanford after 18 seasons as head coach to become the new coach of the Golden State Warriors on Friday.

Montgomery, 57, replaces Eric Musselman, who was fired Wednesday night after two seasons. Montgomery's deal is reportedly a four-year, \$10 million contract, which was completed late Tuesday.

"I guess it never really hit me until they just announced it that I'm the new head coach of the Golden State Warriors," Montgomery said when formally introduced Friday with his wife and daughter looking on. "I got a little choked up. ... I know this is not going

to be easy. It's going to be a tremendous challenge, but I'm prepared for that. I think basketball is basketball."

It was the first major hire by Mullin, who became the Warriors executive vice president of basketball operations a month ago. Mullin appreciated Montgomery's openness about learning the league.

"This is a huge day for the Warriors. I'm elated this is happening," Mullin said. "We're thrilled to bring a coach the caliber of Mike Montgomery into the fold. He's had a tremendous amount of success throughout his career and we think he'll be a very good fit for our organization."

The announcement came a day after Mullin announced Rod Higgins would be the team's new general manager. Mullin met with Montgomery

in person several times for several hours each.

Montgomery told his Stanford players Wednesday he was leaving.

Coaching in the NBA has always been something Montgomery has considered as the next logical step. For several years now he has been talking to other coaches about the differences.

"Obviously there will be somewhat of a transition going from college to the NBA, but I'm prepared to meet those new demands and am confident in my abilities," Montgomery said.

Montgomery has been one of the most successful college coaches over the past two decades, but has no NBA experience. He led the Cardinal to their third No. 1 NCAA tournament seed in five years this season, but Stanford was upset in the second round by Alabama.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA PLAYOFF

L.A. Lakers 97, Minnesota 88, L.A. Lakers lead series 1-0

### MLB STANDINGS

#### AMERICAN LEAGUE EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	25	17	.595	—
New York	24	17	.585	1/2
Baltimore	20	18	.526	3
Toronto	17	25	.405	8
Tampa Bay	12	28	.300	12

#### CENTRAL DIVISION

Chicago	24	17	.585	—
Minnesota	24	17	.585	—
Detroit	20	21	.488	4
Cleveland	18	22	.450	5 1/2
Kansas City	13	26	.333	10

#### WEST DIVISION

Anaheim	27	15	.643	—
Texas	24	17	.585	2 1/2
Oakland	23	18	.561	3 1/2
Seattle	14	27	.341	12 1/2

#### YESTERDAY'S GAMES

Boston 11, Toronto 5  
Tampa Bay 5, Cleveland 3  
Texas 9, N.Y. Yankees 7  
Chicago White Sox 8, Minnesota 2  
Oakland 7, Kansas City 0  
Detroit 5, Seattle 0  
Anaheim 5, Baltimore 3

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE EAST DIVISION

Philadelphia	23	17	.575	—
Florida	23	18	.561	1-2
New York	20	22	.476	4
Atlanta	19	21	.475	4
Montreal	14	28	.333	10

#### CENTRAL DIVISION

Houston	24	17	.585	—
Chicago	23	18	.561	1
Cincinnati	23	18	.561	1
St. Louis	23	19	.548	1 1-2
Milwaukee	21	19	.525	2 1-2
Pittsburgh	18	20	.474	4 1-2

#### WEST DIVISION

Los Angeles	22	18	.550	—
San Diego	23	19	.548	—
San Francisco	18	24	.429	5
Colorado	17	24	.415	5 1-2
Arizona	16	25	.390	6 1-2

#### YESTERDAY'S GAMES

St. Louis 7, Chicago Cubs 6  
San Francisco 6, Montreal 5  
Milwaukee at Pittsburgh, ppd., rain  
Philadelphia 5, San Diego 4  
N.Y. Mets 9, Colorado 7  
Cincinnati 7, Houston 4  
Atlanta 2, Los Angeles 0  
Florida 6, Arizona 5, 10 innings

### SPORTS TRANSACTIONS

#### MLB

**BOSTON RED SOX**—Signed 1B-DH David Ortiz to a two-year contract extension through 2007. Placed RHP Scott Williamson on the 15-day DL, retroactive to May 19. Recalled RHP Anastacio Martinez from Pawtucket of the IL.

**CLEVELAND INDIANS**—Signed OF Raul Gonzalez to a minor league contract.

**MILWAUKEE BREWERS**—Placed 3B Wes Helms on the 15-day DL, retroactive to May 19. Recalled 3B-OF Corey Hart from Indianapolis of the IL.

**NEW YORK METS**—Announced RHP James Baldwin refused an outright assignment to Norfolk of the IL, making him a free agent.

**SAN DIEGO PADRES**—Recalled RHP Rod Beck from extended spring training. Sent LHP Eddie Oropesa outright to Portland of the PCL. Placed INF Ramon Vazquez on the 15-day DL. Recalled RHP Dennis Tankersley from Portland.

#### NBA

**GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS**—Named Mike Montgomery coach.

#### NFL

**NFL**—Took away two days of the off-season program from the New York Giants for violating the NFL's collective bargaining agreement.

**CAROLINA PANTHERS**—Signed LB Sean Tufts to a three-year contract.

#### COLLEGE

**ARMY**—Named Rich DeMarco director of broadcasting.

**DUQUESNE**—Extended the contract of Dan Durkin, women's basketball coach, through the 2006-07 season.

**EDGEWOOD**—Named Doanh Wang women's tennis coach.

**GOSHEN**—Announced the resignation of Brent Hooper, baseball coach.

**KANSAS STATE**—Named Shelley Jarrard and Stephanie White women's assistant basketball coaches.

**SCRANTON**—Named Canio Cianci and Ed Cosgrove men's assistant basketball coaches.

**TEIKYO POST**—Named Karen Byrne women's basketball coach and assistant compliance coordinator.

**TUSCULUM**—Named Josh Springer women's assistant basketball coach.

**XAVIER**—Named Dawn Rogers athletic director.

By The Associated Press

# The Week in Sports



MARK RABAGO

Joji Taguchi shot a two-over par 74 to snatch first place in the Championship Flight of the 6th Annual Rotary Club of Saipan Goodwill Golf Tournament.



MARK RABAGO

Eddie Peter was just a shot behind Taguchi with a 75 but settled for second place in the 0-8 handicap flight.



MARK RABAGO

Joe "Kamikaze" Camacho kept pace with his 2003 South Pacific Games teammates but ultimately finished in third after losing in a 17th hole tiebreak against Peter.

## Taguchi, Castro, Ogo raise the bar

By MARK RABAGO  
REPORTER

**J**oji Taguchi of golf, Patrick Ogo of triathlon, and Alex Castro of bowling saw all their hard work pay off after topping their respective sports the past eight days.

Taguchi reigned supreme in the 6th An-

nual Rotary Club of Saipan Goodwill Golf Tournament held last May 15. Other winners were Jun Jae Ho in A Flight, Daniel Quitugua in B Flight, Frank Camacho in C Flight, Jack Tenorio in Seniors Flight, and Alice Tenorio in Ladies Flight.

For his part, Ogo battled exhaustion to win the first-ever Department of Public Safety Triathlon also last May 15. Ogo

beat out runner-up Clinton O. Ngriraked, and third place Jesse Mesa in the race.

Castro, meanwhile, stamped his class in the May Pepsi King of the Lanes Tenpin Bowling Tournament held Sunday and Monday. Castro finished first, followed by Raymond Zapanta, and Jonathan Eparwa. Carol A. McKenzie topped the women's division.



BRAD RUSZALA

San Vicente School's softball team poses with their fans after playing in the Inter-scholastic Softball Tournament.



MARK RABAGO

Carol A. McKenzie was the top performer among the ladies in last Sunday and Monday's Pepsi King of the Lanes tourney.



MARK RABAGO

Saipan Bowling Association president Jerry Tan with the May Pepsi King of the Lanes Tenpin Bowling Tournament top 3, from left, second place Raymond Zapanta, first place Alex Castro, and third place Jonathan Eparwa.



BRAD RUSZALA

The Toyota Mariners pose after their Little League game with the Tanapag Braves.



MARK RABAGO

CK Legends Jerry "Mutombo" Lopez posts up against Dollar Days center Bruce Berline in their 40-and-over MBL game Tuesday. Legends won 86-76.



BRAD RUSZALA

The PIC volleyball season is head and shoulders above the rest.

Patrick Ogo, left, receives his Ironman brand backpack from DPS commissioner Edward Camacho after he won the DPS Triathlon last May 15.

BRAD RUSZALA





## Leonard, Lewis hold lead at windy Colonial

Justin Leonard looked as if he was on his way to another record round at the Colonial. Then he stumbled and had to settle for a share of the lead.

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

## Taguchi, Castro, Ogo raise the bar

Joji Taguchi of golf, Patrick Ogo of triathlon, and Alex Castro of bowling saw all their hard work pay off after topping their respective sports the past eight days.

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28 SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2004

SAIPAN TRIBUNE



Participants of the 3rd Annual SAIWAI World Walking Day walk gather at Suicide Cliff – the starting point of the event.

MARK RABAGO/CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

# Saipan celebrates World Walking Day

By MARK RABAGO  
REPORTER

Over 40 walking enthusiasts woke up early and took the 20-minute drive up to Suicide Cliff to participate in the 3rd Annual World Walking Day Walk organized by SAIWAI last Sunday, April 16.

It's not often that SAIWAI members begin their walk from such a high location but after learning that it would generally be a downhill trek, majority of the walkers took the challenge head on and completed the 10-kilometer course that ended at Pau Pau Beach.

The participants to the World Walking Day event were made up of local residents, tourists, professionals, and school children.

Cody Race was one of a handful of children who finished the 10-kilometer course and said he felt great after the long walk. "It was a nice walk and I beat my sister and other relatives who just walked the five-kilometer distance."

SAIWAI member and Ernst and Young accountant Anabelle Ramos also was elated after completing the walk from Suicide Cliff to Pau Pau Beach in Marpi.



I can't wait for the next event," she said.

Christopher Lubi, who arrived on Saipan just four months ago, also signed up for the World Walking Day Walk and said it was his first time to join a SAIWAI event.

"I've been hearing about SAIWAI from my friends. It's actually my first time to walk up in Marpi. I usually walk at the American Memorial Park. I liked the experience and would like to join two more SAIWAI events so I could become a member," he said.

Marlon Estigoy, another SAIWAI member and employee of Hafa Adai Hotel, said that aside from the easier-than-usual pace of the event he also enjoyed the scenery atop Mt. Marpi.

"The view from Suicide Cliff and going down never really gets old. There always is a new angle

Junior walkers of the SAIWAI walk reach one of the most scenic parts of the event.



and it cannot be seen when you motor up or down the mountain. You could appreciate it better if you jog or bike down," he said.

SAIWAI's World Walking Day event also included the family of former AGO chief investigator Joe Race, who incidentally got married two days earlier. He tagged along 13 of his new wife Salve's relatives and his own relatives to join in the walk and thanked SAIWAI for the opportunity.

"I love SAIWAI, because these walking events always bring families together," he said.

SAIWAI secretary Mario Espeleta readily agreed with Race's comments and said that such a thing has always been the intention of World Walking Day and SAIWAI.

"World Walking Day was created as an opportunity to focus on IVV volkssport as a family day specially by inviting families and friends to a relaxed physical outdoor activity," said Espeleta.

SAIWAI vice president Yoichi Matsumura, who gave early birds a 30-minute head start but nonetheless caught up with them at the finish line, said that he was happy with the turnout.

"World Walking [Day] is always a special event in SAIWAI's calendar. I was happy to see familiar faces and new people in the event. Happy World Walking Day to all."

SAIWAI celebrated World Walking Day in conjunction with IVV member organizations in the U.S., Canada, Brazil, Japan, South Korea, Turkey, Nepal, Australia, New Zealand, the CNMI and 29 other European countries.

Other walking events SAIWAI has slated for the rest of the year are the 3rd Annual Pan Pacific IVV Saipan Festival Walk on June 26; the 3rd Annual Foundation and Family Day Walk on August

21; the Heart of the Marianas Fitness Fair Walk on September 25; and the 4th Annual Thanksgiving Day Walk on November 20.

For more information on the rest of SAIWAI's walking activities, please contact Bea at 322-2725 or Mario at 322-8876.

SAIWAI was incorporated as a non-profit corporation on July 27, 2001 and was established to promote public health through non-competitive walking.



The 10-kilometer walk was mostly a downhill trot and gave participants a breath-taking view of the bay.

SAIWAI vice president Yoichi Matsumura gave most of the participants a 30-minute head start but still finished ahead of some of them after cranking up the pace at the end.

